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THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. A pharmaceutical composition for treating a mammal having metabolic abnormalities resulting from insulin resistance comprising an effective amount of at least one polymethoxyflavone compound and a suitable pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, carrier or adjuvant.
- 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein said polymethoxyflavone is chosen from sinensetin, nobilten, tangeretin, heptamethoxyflavone, tetramethylscutellarein and mixtures thereof.
- 3. The composition of claim 2 wherein said polymethoxyflavone is tangeretin.
- 4. The composition of claim 1 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone comprises a mixture of various polymethoxyflavone compounds.
- 5. The composition of claim 4 wherein said mixture comprises sinensetin, nobilten, tangeretin, heptamethoxyflavone, and tetramethylscutellarein.
- 6. The composition of claim 1 wherein said composition is prepared for administration by a means chosen from oral, transdermal, rectal, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal subcutaneous, topical, or by inhalation.
- 7. The composition of claim 1 wherein said composition is administered orally.
- 8. The use of a metabolic abnormality reducing amount of at least one polymethoxyflavone in a mammal experiencing insulin resistance syndrome.
- 9. The use as claimed in claim 8 wherein said polymethoxyflavone is chosen from sinensetin, nobilten, tangeretin, heptamethoxyflavone, tetramethylscutellarein and mixtures thereof.

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10. The use as claimed in claim 8 wherein said polymethoxyflavone is tangeretin.

- 11. The use as claimed in claim 8 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone comprises a mixture of various polymethoxyflavone compounds.
- 12. The use as claimed in claim 11 wherein said mixture comprises sinensetin, nobilten, tangeretin, heptamethoxyflavone, and tetramethylscutellarein.
- 13. The use as claimed in claim 8 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone is administered by a means chosen from oral, transdermal, rectal, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal subcutaneous, topical, or by inhalation.
- 14. The use as claimed in claim 8 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone is administered orally.
- 15. A method of treating a mammal having metabolic abnormalities resulting from insulin resistance comprising administering an effective amount of at least one polymethoxyflavone compound.

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- 16. The method of claim 15 wherein said polymethoxyflavone is chosen from sinensetin, nobilten, tangeretin, heptamethoxyflavone, tetramethylscutellarein and mixtures thereof.
- 17. The method of 15 wherein said polymethoxyflavone is tangeretin.
- 18. The method of claim 15 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone comprises a mixture of various polymethoxyflavone compounds.
- 19. The method of claim 18 wherein said mixture comprises sinensetin, nobilten, tangeretin, heptamethoxyflavone, and tetramethylscutellarein.

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20. The method of claim 15 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone is administered by a means chosen from oral, transdermal, rectal, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal subcutaneous, topical, or by inhalation.

- 21. The method of claim 15 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone is administered orally.
- 22. The method of claim 15 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone is administered to said mammal in an amount of up to 5000 mg/day.
- 23. The method of claim 22 wherein said at least one polymethoxyflavone is administered to said mammal in an amount of up to 70 mg/kg/day, based on the weight of said mammal.